



BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES Action Group

BULLETIN No: 4

email: stopbondrones@gmail.com

Facebook: Bonython Against Drones

GOAL To raise awareness of the negative impact of the drone delivery service on residents, pets and bird life in Bonython.
MISSION To stop the drones and their intrusiveness on the peace and quiet of our suburb and environment.

HAPPENINGS - Bonython Against Drones Action Group

A meeting was held on 16 October.

Action this week

- A letter was sent to Mr Gentleman requesting him to set up a meeting (before the end of the month of October and at his convenience and venue) with residents so he and others can hear how valid the concerns are about the drones. A response was received with an offer of an interview in his office on Nov 19 for ½ hour with 3 people.
- A letter was sent to Mr Gentleman seeking clarification on who is responsible for noise of the drones, explaining that CASA have stated they are not, the same with Air Services Australia and Environmental Protection Agency have also said that it is not within their responsibilities.
- A letter was sent to CASA asking why the reports of 'controlled landings' (Project Wing terminology) aka drones crashes and other incidents, including drone collisions with birds, are not being investigated. The letter also requested an explanation of what a reportable incident is, as opposed to a 'controlled landing', and requesting details if Project Wing has reported any incidents to date.
- The action group has made an FOI request to the ACT Government in regard to
 1. Information on the scope, agreements of the drone trial between the ACT government for Project Wing conducted in ROYALLA. This includes the initial set ups, community consultations and final report on the outcome. Also on the number of deliveries, types of deliveries, number of complaints from residents on noise.
 2. Information on the scope, timeframe and agreements of the drone trial between the ACT government for Project Wings conducted in BONYTHON. This includes the initial set ups, community consultations, timeframe of the trial, contact details of all the involved parties (Project Wing, CASA). Also information on the number of deliveries, type of delivery, number of complaints from residents on noise.
 3. Information on Project Wing trials and all consultations with the ACT Government on current trials and any proposed future trials.

Results of this request will be made available when information comes to hand.

Membership

Current membership of the Facebook page **BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES** now stands at 153.

Additionally there has been an increase in emails to the stopbondrones@gmail.com account to 61.

Guest

Murray May (Aviation Noise expert) attended the action group meeting and gave an overview of his experiences in Hackett with a small airplane action group. Murray also discussed levels of noise, including the decibels, the amplification, frequency and modulation and how this can impact the quality of life. He commended the action group on what has been put in place so far and was pleasantly surprised how many in the suburb had joined as members on Facebook or emails. He stated that having a good number of members supports and pulls a lot of weight when endeavoring to achieve results.

Petition: STOP PROJECT WING DRONE (REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT- RPA) TRIAL IN BONYTHON ACT

A petition to the ACT Legislative Assembly has been drafted for circulation within the suburb. A number of at least 500 signatures is required for a petition to be submitted to the Legislative Assembly asking MLAs

to take action on an issue of concern. A couple of very kind and willing people will be walking around the suburb this weekend with the petition so please get all in your household over the age of 18 yrs to sign it. If by chance you are not home when they call please send an email to stopbondrones@gmail.com and we can organise for someone to call on you.

Interview with US newspaper Journalist

Jacob, a journalist from The Roanoke Times, Virginia, USA made contact with the action group through the Bonython Against Drones Facebook page requesting an interview about the drone deliveries in the suburb. Irena spoke with him on Friday 12 October. Jacob was interested in the lived experience of Bonython residents throughout the drone trial. Facts that were pointed out to him were the many and varied community concerns regarding the invasive noise of the drones, both for those living under the flight path and those who lived within a [noise] radius of a 'drop zone', privacy concerns, fear about data collection, safety concerns and anecdotal evidence of disappearing bird life. He wanted to know how many drones would fly over in a day, and what they sounded like from inside our homes and was shocked to know that the drones can be heard inside a closed house with double glazing. It was also pointed out about the lack of opportunities for residents to voice their concerns to any beneficial source for collation and checking. Montgomery County in Virginia, where Jacob is based, is where a Project Wing drone trial is about to commence. Be very aware Roanoke!!!

Drone Incident Reports

1. A resident returned home from a weekend away to find that there was a drone delivery of old hot chocolate sprayed across her driveway; obviously a delivery gone wrong! The resident was very unhappy to find the mess but also very troubled that this could have been someone's else's chemist delivery that contained medication that she would not want her young children to get hold of.
2. A bird was seen attacking a drone. This could lead to injury or worse for the bird or the drone being forced down. A video is on the Bonython Against Drones Facebook page.
3. A concerned resident sent the following information.

... an incident that occurred several weeks ago. I was walking in the Pine Island area when one of the drones appeared and hovered over me and the person I was walking with. We both moved several steps to the side and the drone appeared to follow us, moving in the same direction and then hovering again. It then flew back towards the launch site area near the dog training facility. This encounter has left me feeling uneasy and 'watched' - surely this can be considered harassment as I felt very uncomfortable and didn't know what the drone was doing - was it taking pictures of us... This wasn't helped by the fact that at this stage, I didn't know about the trail and had no idea why drones kept flying past.

The above incidents are new and add to the list of others that we have reported but don't appear to being reported to CASA who claim that they have had NIL incidents reported to them.

If any of these types of incidents have occurred to yourself or anyone else, can you please report it immediately to any or all of the contact listed under 'Who to contact' in this Bulletin or, alternatively, let us know at stopbondrones@gmail.com and we will most certainly forward it on.

Stock take of correspondence to ACT government, CASA and Wings.

On behalf of all concerned residents, the action group would like to do a 'stocktake' of correspondence about the drones. From reports and communication on the Facebook page, emails and other sources there appears to be many different comments, answers, incorrect advice, or repetitive responses from ACT government, CASA and WING or other bodies. We would be grateful if you could send a copy of any letters or emails you have sent, together with any responses to stopbondrones@gmail.com. To assist in sorting emails, could you please put a heading of "Stock take corro" in the heading of any emails.

While this will be a time consuming action it will present a clear statement of activity that will allow the action group to present it as a representative and comprehensive base document.

Volunteers wanted:

We had responses from a couple of members who offered to help out at the SouthFest (Tugg Festival) Saturday 24 November. Rather than putting the load on a few, more willing hands will be most welcome. Please let us know if you can spare even an hour for this event.

We are still interested in hearing from anyone who can assist us in any of the following:

- To work on the **BAD Action Group** stall at SouthFest (Tugg Festival) Saturday 24 Nov.
- Help to organise a residents meeting.
- MC a Residents meeting.
- Research skills.

What you can do

- Spread the word about the **BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES** Action Group – tell your neighbours, family and friends. Project Wing intends to expand testing zones of the drone delivery service.
- Check out the Facebook page **BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES** and leave comments – ask your family and friends to do the same.
- Please contact Gai Brodtman and send her your feedback. She is very aware and concerned about the issues of the trial and asks that residents share their thoughts about it with her.
- Send us emails with your complaints, issues and let us know if you have any information that you might think we can employ.
- **Keep sending emails addressing your complaints and grievances to any or all on the attached list – ‘Who you can contact’ below.**

Who you can contact

If you have any more people or organisations to add to this list please let us know so we can let others know.

Noise complaints - EPA	environment.protection@act.gov.au
Wing drones	x.company/intl/en_au/wing/contact/ or wing-au@x-team Att: Jesse Suskin
Canberra Times	Letters to the editor, opinions etc letters.editor@canberratimes.com.au
Canberra Weekly	news@canberraweekly.com.au
City News	editor@citynews.com.au
Gai Brodtman MP Member for Canberra	https://www.gaibrodtmann.com.au/contact
ACT Legislative Assembly	Andrew Barr - barr@act.gov.au Mick Gentleman - gentleman@act.gov.au Joy Burch - burch@act.gov.au Nicole Lawder (Opposition)- lawder@parliament.act.gov.au Caroline Le Couteur (Greens) - lecouteur@parliament.act.gov.au Shane Rattenbury (Greens) - rattenbury@act.gov.au or - www.contactmyminister.act.gov.au
Tuggeranong Community Council	www.tuggeranong.org.au/contact-us
Parks and Conservation	www.environment.act.gov.au/about/contact
ACCESS Canberra complaints	https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/ask
CASA	simon.denby@casa.gov.au

BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES Action Group contact

If you can help out in any way or have new ideas or information please contact us.

email: stopbondrones@gmail.com

Facebook: Bonython Against Drones

NOTE: If you do not wish to receive these Bulletins please contact stopbondrones@gmail.com